

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 LAB-04
SIL-01 OC-06 CCO-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /074 W
-----029516 112026Z /73

R 091949Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8314

UNCLAS OTTAWA 03940

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, CA
SUBJECT: AIR CANADA LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

REF: OTTAWA 03873

1. AIR CANADA (AC) FLIGHT SCHEDULES RETURNED TO NORMAL OVER THE HOLIDAY WEEKEND OF AUGUST 5-6 BUT MORE THAN HALF OF THE 7,500 GROUND CREW EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY THE PRESS TO HAVE VOTED AGAINST ACCEPTANCE OF A NEW CONTRACT TENTATIVELY ACCEPTED ON JULY 30 BY NATIONAL UNION NEGOTIATORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS (IAM). ORIGINALLY, THE IAM DEMANDED AN 18 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE OVER EIGHTEEN MONTHS; AC OFFERED 12 PERCENT OVER TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS WHICH WAS INCREASED TO A 16 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE OVER TWENTY-FIVE MONTHS. A GOC CONCILIATOR RECOMMENDED 6 PERCENT RETROACTIVE TO APRIL 3, 1978, PLUS 2 PERCENT JANUARY 1, 1979 PLUS 7 PERCENT ON APRIL 3, 1979. THE IAM-CONDUCTED RATIFICATION VOTE RESULTS ARE DUE THIS WEEK WHICH MEANS THAT FURTHER WORK STOPPAGES COULD TAKE PLACE SHORTLY THEREAFTER. MEANWHILE, AC MANAGEMENT SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED AIR CANADA'S INTENT TO DISCIPLINE (LOCK-OUT) IAM GROUND CREW EMPLOYEES WHO PARTICIPATE IN FURTHER LOCALIZED WORK STOPPAGES BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN FINALIZED. NONETHELESS, AIR TRAVELERS CONTINUE TO

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REPORT SPOTTY DELAYS DUE TO GROUND SERVICE SLOW-DOWNS AT TORONTO, MONTREAL AND OTTAWA TERMINALS.

2. TWO OTHER UNIONS ARE PRESENTLY NEGOTIATING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS WITH AC. THEY ARE THE CANADIAN AIR LINE FLIGHT ATTENDANTS ASSOCIATION AND THE CANADIAN AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION. A THIRD EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION

REPRESENTING THE TICKET AGENTS, THE CANADIAN AIR LINE
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, IS ABOUT TO BEGIN ITS NEGOTIATIONS
WITH AIR CANADA. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA03940
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780329-0428
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780882/aaaacqyr.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 18e16d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 OTTAWA 3873
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1792341
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIR CANADA LABOR NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18e16d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014